

Episode 231 Saturday 26 April 2008

Townsville Chris Parsons

Townsville is Australia's largest tropical beachside city offering a stack of things to do. An ocean loving town, it's no wonder that there is plenty of marine inspired attractions to visit on dry land!



The Strand is a good place to start. It stretches for 2.5 kilometres offering BBQ areas, restaurants, plus one of the coolest FREE water parks! The Strand is also where you'll find the Watermark Restaurant, which has sophisticated fare at reasonable prices. It's open seven days for lunch and dinner.

Reef HQ on Flinders Street boasts the largest living coral reef aquarium. You can stop by and marvel any day of the week. Don't miss the Dive Show where you can actually chat with the diver in the tank!

The Museum of Tropical Queensland is just a few paces away and has plenty of secrets to unlock. The HMS Pandora exhibit is well worth dedicating a few hours to.

Also on Flinders Street is the Imax Theatre that has a whopping 18 metre screen which happens to be the only dome shaped screen in Australia.

Contact NO Imax
(07) 4721 1481

Contact Reef HQ
reefHQ.com.au, (07) 4750 0800

Contact Museum of Tropical Queensland
mtq.qm.qld.gov.au, (07) 4726 0600

Contact Watermark Townsville
(07) 4724 4281

Noosa Food & Wine Tour Dean Miller

Dean recently joined Noosa Hinterland Tours for a Noosa Food & Wine Day Tour. The tour provides a fantastic opportunity to meet growers and producers and taste the local fare they're famous for.



Dean's day included a visit to an Organic Tropical Fruit Farm in North Arm. Surrounded by amazing views, the team enjoyed fresh pumpkin scones, barbecued bananas, fresh jams and preserves. As well as a delicious morning tea, the farm's owner/operators, the Colemans, provided a tour of the property and the crops that flourish there, including bananas and avocados.

Next on the agenda was a stop-off at Dingo Creek Vineyard where the tour group enjoyed sampling locally produced red and white wines.

The day concluded with a tour of Kybong Crayfish Farm. Dean enjoyed pulling in a net of live crayfish and later sampled some of the freshly cooked delicacy under the farm's grass-hut in the centre of their lagoon; a beautiful end to the day.

If time permits, the tour also includes a visit to Noosa Reds – a tomato farm and an additional winery.

Contact Noosa Hinterland Tours

Noosa Food & Wine Tour

\$95 (\$85 for seniors)

Fridays (other days by appointment)

(07) 5446 3111

0412 072 930

*Pick-up and drop-off by arrangement

Ostrich Lady Buddha Handy

The Brisbane Valley Ostrich and Fish Farm is home to several hand reared ostriches. Visitors to the property have the opportunity to get up close and hand feed the exotic birds. Owner Patti Jaenke delights in sharing her passion for ostriches with others.



Patti also offers egg artistry classes on demand. Participants start on goose eggs and once they have mastered the basics of the intricate craft they can progress to ostrich eggs.

A visit to the farm includes an afternoon of fishing at one of the property's 13 dams. Each is well stocked with a range of fish including Saratoga, bass and golden perch. The fishing operates on a catch and release system, and all the fishing gear is provided.

Contact Brisbane Valley Ostrich & Fish Farm

Gatton-Esk Road, Esk

bvostrichandfishfarm.com.au

(07) 5424 1146

Porsche Driving School Taryn Onofaro

Porsche was founded in 1931 and is now recognized as one of the most prestigious car brands in the world.



Now anyone can get behind the wheel of some of Porsche's hottest cars and take them for a spin at The Porsche Sport Driving School which runs several times a month at the Mt Cotton Training Centre.

A full day precision driving course costs \$1265, and that includes a huge buffet lunch. They offer a range of courses that focus on different aspects of driving such as how to handle vehicles and respond correctly in hazardous situations.

Students are instructed by experienced drivers like Tomas Mezera who raced cars professionally for 20 years and even won Bathurst back in 1988.

Contact Porsche Sport Driving School

porsche.com.au

1800 062 911

QLD Event – Music in the Mulga

From 8-12 May, Nardoo Station will host Music in the Mulga. Just head along the Mitchell Highway, about 38 clicks north of Cunnamulla and you'll find yourself at the huge sheep and cattle property. The Music in the Mulga line-up includes Nicki Gillis, Kellie Cain, Adam Kilpatrick, and Amos Morris, and the Saturday night will finish up with a laser show courtesy of the famous Charleville Cosmos Centre.



But there's so much more to keep you occupied at Nardoo. Enjoy a dip in the hot Artesian Spa, head down to the Warrego River for a fish, or explore the property and learn about what life is like out of the city. You can camp onsite, and even bring your dog, so check out Nardoo's website for all the details.

Contact Music in the Mulga

Nardoo Station, Mitchell Highway, Cunnamulla

\$70 per person, Friday only - \$25 per person, Saturday only - \$65 per person

nardoo.com.au

(07) 4655 4833

Where the Heck Is..... Stange Bay?

Nestled in Central Queensland along the Capricorn Coast between Rockhampton (170kms to the south) and Mackay (318 kms to the north) is this quiet, undiscovered oasis.

It's an extremely popular spot for wetting a line - offering fantastic reef & estuary fishing. It's also home to big Stange Mud Crabs. Trailor your own boat, or hire one once you're there.

Contact Stange Bay

Capricorn Tourism

capricorntourism.com.au

(07) 4927 2055
